

Message to the Senate Transmitting the Brazil-United States Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty With Documentation *April 28, 1998*

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Treaty between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed at Brasilia on October 14, 1997. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty.

The Treaty is one of a series of modern mutual legal assistance treaties that the United States is negotiating in order to counter criminal activities more effectively. The Treaty should be an effective tool to assist in the prosecution of a wide variety of modern criminals, including those involved in terrorism, other violent crimes, drug trafficking, money laundering, and other “white-collar” crime. The Treaty is self-executing, and will not require new legislation.

The Treaty provides for a broad range of cooperation in criminal matters. Mutual assistance available under the Treaty includes:

(1) Locating or identifying persons or items; (2) serving documents; (3) taking testimony or statements of persons; (4) transferring persons in custody for testimony or other purposes; (5) providing documents, records, and items; (6) executing requests for searches and seizures; (7) assisting in proceedings related to immobilization and forfeiture of assets, restitution, and collection of fines; and (8) any other form of assistance not prohibited by the laws of the Requested State.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
April 28, 1998.

Remarks at a Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee Dinner in New York City *April 28, 1998*

Thank you very much. Thank you, Shelby and Katherine, for opening your beautiful home. I thank all the Senators who are here. I thank especially Senator Kerrey and Senator Torricelli. When Bob Torricelli goes around the country or Bob Kerrey goes around the country, I know they enjoy it, but it still gets hard. [*Laughter*] It still gets hard. All these Senators are here; they're going to go get on a plane and go home tonight so they can be there and vote tomorrow. And I thank them for doing this on behalf of others, among whom surely are the three candidates we have for the Senate in New York tonight. And I thank them all for running and for their fidelity to our party and for what they have already done for our country. And I thank Judith Hope for her leadership.

I also would be remiss if I didn't thank the people of New York for being so good to me and Al Gore. Twenty-five percent of the total plurality I received in popular votes in the entire country in 1996 came from New York, and I'm very grateful. I was just leaning against the wall back there wondering how much better I might have done if I hadn't interrupted traffic for 4 years before the election. [*Laughter*] Truly the people here are the epitome of tolerance. One of you tonight informed me that you had to walk 10 blocks just to get here because of my attendance. [*Laughter*] For that, I apologize.

Let me say very briefly, I try to do a number of these events to help our candidates for the Senate, our candidates for the House. I believe that the success that our country has enjoyed